

DAILY REPORT

Asia & Pacific

Vol IV No 169

2 September 1986

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Indonesia Blocks Proposed ASEAN Common Market [AFP]
ASEAN Ministers End Meeting, Common Market Shelved [AFP]

A 1
A 2

JAPAN

Kuranari Comments on SDI, Ties With USSR, PRC
Cabinet Ministers Discuss SDI Participation
Kurihara Leaves for Meeting With Weinberger
Tamura Leaves for Trade Meeting in Portugal
Groups Protest Kuranari Meeting With Botha
1 Killed, 8 Wounded in Attacks Against Unionists [AFP]
Fiscal 1987 Budget Requests Up 6.7 Percent

C 1
C 2
C 2
C 2
C 3
C 3
C 4

NORTH KOREA

DPRK 'Will Not Participate' in Seoul Asian Games
[NODONG SINMUN 1 Sep]

D 1

SOUTH KOREA

Door Still 'Open' for DPRK To Participate in Asiad [KYODO]
Pyongyang Planning To Subvert Asian Games
180 Students Arrested Before Asian Games
NKDP Refutes Prosecution Claims [THE KOREA TIMES 31 Aug]
Police Plan To Prevent Students Disrupting Asiad
Students Form Struggle Groups [THE KOREA TIMES 30 Aug]
Plan To 'Seclude' Activists [THE KOREA TIMES 31 Aug]
PRC To Use Direct Flights to Seoul for Asiad [KYODO]
Statement of Delegate to N.-S. Red Cross Talks
50,000 Attend Opposition Rally in Pusan 30 Aug [AFP]

E 1
E 1
E 2
E 2
E 3
E 3
E 3
E 4
E 4
E 6

THAILAND

Prem Meets Sihanouk, Pledges Continued Support
[BANGKOK WORLD 28 Aug]
Further on Meeting
Sitthi Responds To Phoun Sipaseut Message
[NAEO NA 28 Aug]
USSR's Zaytsev Arrives 31 Aug on 4-Day Visit
[BANGKOK POST 1 Sep]
Move Against Wira Also Seen as Aimed at Prem
[SIAM RAT 28 Aug]
Prem Defends Handling of Wira Case to Opposition
[THE NATION 28 Aug]

J 1
J 1
J 1
J 2
J 3
J 4

House Votes To Allow Wira To Stand Trial [BANGKOK POST 29 Aug]	J 6
Wira Ready for Showdown [THE NATION 30 Aug]	J 8
Groups Pressure Democrats [THE NATION 30 Aug]	J 9
Most Democrats Support Wira [BANGKOK POST 31 Aug]	J 9
Wira Announces Resignation Decision	J 10
'Source' Cited on Military Reshuffle Lists [BANGKOK WORLD 30 Aug]	J 11
King Approves List [BANGKOK POST 2 Sep]	J 12
Military Appointees Profiled [THE NATION 2 Sep]	J 14
Prem Orders Reinstatement of Young Turks [THE NATION 30 Aug]	J 17

VIETNAM

Direct Talks on Amerasian Children Issue Held	K 1
Nguyen Huu Tho Arrives in Harare for Summit	K 1
Nonaligned Ministers Leave Cambodian Seat Vacant	K 1
Unicef Delegation Visits, Meets Pham Van Dong	K 2

AUSTRALASIA

NEW ZEALAND

Lange Rejects Military Cooperation With USSR [THE EVENING POST 27 Aug]	M 1
Kapitsa Discusses USSR's Pacific Policy [THE EVENING POST 27 Aug]	M 1

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Vagi Clarifies PNG-USSR Fishing Negotiations [Melbourne]	M 2
---	-----

PHILIPPINES

Aquino Expresses 'Concern' Over Fighting [KYODO]	P 1
Urges Immediate Cease-Fire	P 2
Aquino Praises Heroism of Soldiers at Ceremony	P 2
Enrile on CPP, NPA Disunity; Ver Seen in Sabah	P 2
Enrile Calls for Caution in Dealing With Rebels	P 2
Says AFP Can 'Finish' Insurgency [KYODO]	P 3
Criticizes NDF Demands	P 4
Warns Against Repeating Mistakes [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 24 Aug]	P 4
Enrile on Danger From 'Leftist Labor Fronts'	P 5
Labor Group Supports Enrile's Presidential Bid	P 6
Rebellion Charges Against Tolentino Dropped	P 7
Rally Held in Pampanga To Support U.S. Bases	P 7
Officials Term Aquino's Trip 'Complete Success'	P 7

INDONESIA BLOCKS PROPOSED ASEAN COMMON MARKET

HK291400 Hong Kong AFP in English 1330 GMT 29 Aug 86

[By Roberto Coloma]

[Text] Manila, Aug 29 (AFP) -- Strong objections from Indonesia at a meeting Friday of ASEAN economic ministers have blocked a proposal for a regional common market by the year 2000, a top official involved in the meeting said. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will instead adopt a gradual policy of trade liberalization among its six member countries, the official said. "There was one country that was really scared" of the common-market idea because of its economic problems, the official, who requested anonymity, told reporters. Asked if it was the largest country, the official nodded vigorously.

Indonesia, with a population exceeding 160 million, is by far the largest ASEAN member. The others are Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. ASEAN has been seeking ways of fostering economic cooperation and protecting member economies from trade protectionism in the West and low commodity prices on the world market.

The Philippines and Malaysia took the initiative to propose a common market when the three-day conference opened Thursday. Philippine Trade and Industry Minister Jose Concepcion, the conference chairman, refused to comment after Friday's talks, saying the official ASEAN stand would be announced at a closing news conference Saturday. But the official who spoke to reporters said: "The result (of the meeting) is going to state that among the proposals was an ASEAN free-trade area, but that there were a lot of difficulties and it will be studied."

The compromise would merely amount to "steps toward" a free market in the region, where total trade among ASEAN members amounted to 27 billion dollars in 1983, according to figures released by conference organizers.

As a result of Indonesia's opposition, the proposal for a common market by the year 2000 may not even be brought to next August's summit of Asian leaders "if the difficulties cannot be ironed out," the sources said. ASEAN officials had earlier said that the Manila summit -- only the third in ASEAN history -- would chart "new directions" whereby economic cooperation could catch up with the political unity that has developed within ASEAN over Vietnam's military presence in Cambodia.

"ASEAN is really consensus," the official said. "If there is one country that objects, there is nothing that can be done. Everybody liked it (except Indonesia)." "They were afraid of being at the losing end. They have too many problems. It's very conservative," the official said. "We were asking for a definite time frame of 2000. It's not possible." Other conference sources speculated that Indonesia feared buying much more than it could sell to its ASEAN partners, due to its huge population.

The official said the "steps forward" to a freer ASEAN market would include a "definite time frame for liberalization, preferential tariff trade agreements (and) removal of non-tariff barriers."

Comparing the economic ministers' meeting to previous ones, the official said: "We are now directing the economic committees to have specific proposals with specific time frames, and to develop indicators that would allow us to measure our success."

Asked about the outcome of discussions on promises by ASEAN's chief allies -- the so-called "dialogue partners" -- to open their markets to ASEAN products, the official replied: "more dialogue." The dialogue partners are the United States, Japan, the European Community, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

ASEAN MINISTERS END MEETING, COMMON MARKET SHELVED

HK300919 Hong Kong AFP in English 0846 GMT 30 Aug 86

[Text] Manila, Aug 30 (AFP) -- ASEAN economic ministers Saturday ended a three-day meeting here looking to the August 1987 Manila summit for breakthroughs in economic unity after shelving a proposal for a common market by the year 2000. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), whose economic cooperation has lagged behind its anti-communist political solidarity, will meanwhile adopt a gradual programme of opening up their markets to one another, the ministers said.

Indonesia, the largest of the six-member ASEAN, blocked the common-market proposal, a top official involved in the talks said Friday and this was later confirmed by conference sources.

The other members -- the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and Brunei -- were supportive of the idea, along with the ASEAN chamber of commerce and industry, which groups regional businessmen working closely with ASEAN, the sources said.

Philippine Trade and Industry Minister Jose Concepcion told reporters Saturday: "This discussion in a way is a preparation of the new initiatives, the new moves, the new dimensions that will be submitted to the ASEAN summit meeting."

Mr. Concepcion repeatedly evaded the common-market issue and stressed moves to lower intra-ASEAN trade barriers. But he finally said "yes," when asked if the ministers had failed to reach a consensus on the idea. The ASEAN requires consensus on all joint undertakings. Indonesian Trade Minister Rahmat Saleh refused to comment at the news conference, at which Mr. Concepcion spoke for the ministers.

Some conference sources said Indonesia might be wary of the common-market idea because it is by far the largest nation in ASEAN, with more than 160 million people, and might end up buying far more from its neighbors than it sells. Mr. Concepcion said the matter would be studied further.

ASEAN, whose political unity was forged by Cambodian conflict, has been criticized for shortcomings on the economic side, and is now seeking ways of protecting its members from western protectionism and low commodity prices.

The Philippines, with the weakest economy in ASEAN, had proposed a counter-trade system allowing members to use their own currencies in intra-ASEAN trade, thus removing the need for dollars and foreign loans, but this was also shelved, Mr. Concepcion said.

But the economic ministers had "welcomed" Manila's initiative of allowing the use of ASEAN national currencies as a medium of exchange for trade of Philippine products with its partners, Mr. Concepcion said.

He said possible initiatives at the summit included improved preferential trade agreements, tariff liberalization, standstill and rollback of non-tariff barriers, such as quotas and permits, preferences for ASEAN investment, harmonizing investment laws and plans, and more industrial joint ventures. Also included were proposals for greater cooperation in commodities, shipping, banking, insurance and tourism, and the "development of indicators that will allow the effective monitoring of ASEAN economic cooperation," he added.

The ministers had directed senior economic officials to study the initiatives and come up with specific proposals for them to submit to the Manila summit, stressing that they must be based on mutual gain and be phased.

The ministers signed, at the news conference, agreements giving preference to ASEAN contractors in projects funded by International Financial institutions such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, and increasing tariff protection for products of ASEAN industrial joint-ventures.

The Manila summit, only the third in ASEAN's history, will coincide with its 20th anniversary. The economic ministers will next convene in Singapore in February and again in Manila just before the summit.

KURANARI COMMENTS ON SDI, TIES WITH USSR, PRC

0W300527 Tokyo KYODO in English 0217 GMT 30 Aug 86

[Text] Karuizawa, Nagano Pref., Aug. 30 KYODO -- The Japanese Government will decide by September 10 whether or not to participate in the Strategic Defense Initiative, Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari said Saturday.

Kuranari, speaking at a Liberal-Democratic Party seminar here, stopped short of saying whether they would decide participation in the project.

A cabinet task force has studied the matter for the past half year after the United States invited Japan and other Western allies to participate in the research phase of the antimissile program.

One major hurdle lies in a Diet resolution limiting Japan's space research efforts to peaceful use only. Kuranari said the government is probing ways on how to resolve the Diet resolution so that a decision on Japan's participation can be reached.

Kuranari said the government is also working on the issue of fingerprinting requirements for foreign residents in Japan, which he said is aggravating Japan's ties with South Korea. He said he expected the matter to improve, and that the justice minister is "positive" about taking appropriate steps to achieve this.

On Japan's ties with the Soviet Union, Kuranari said Japan welcomes Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's proposed visit to Japan, noting that the visit reflects Gorbachev's policy of attaching more importance to Asia in Soviet foreign policy. He said the Japanese Government is hopeful that the visit will produce substantial results, and cited Japan's claim to four Soviet-held islands off northern Japan as a major thorn in bilateral ties. Also, he said Japan has no intention of separating politics from economics in its ties with the Soviet Union, and added that Japan's claim of sovereignty of the four northern islands "is an issue which can't be averted."

Turning to Japan's ties with China, Kuranari cited the "Yasukuni Shrine" problem as a major irritant in otherwise smooth bilateral ties. While Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's decision to avoid an official visit to the shrine August 15 has temporarily averted a confrontation with China, the issue will continue to haunt bilateral relations in the future, Kuranari said. The basic problem, he said, is that although the shrine is dedicated to the war dead, Japan's A-class war criminals are also enshrined there.

On Japan-U.S. ties, Kuranari warned that the Kansai airport project will turn into another aspect of trade friction with the United States if the project contracts are not open to American firms.

On Japan's ties with Southeast Asia, Kuranari proposed that Japan accept more students from the region as part of Japanese efforts to build closer ties with the region.

Overall, Kuranari advocated a more active part in foreign policy, saying that Japan should play a role that is more compatible with its economic strength in the world.

CABINET MINISTERS DISCUSS SDI PARTICIPATION

0W020537 Tokyo KYODO in English 0525 GMT 2 Sep 86

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 2 KYODO -- Cabinet ministers concerned with Japan's possible participation in the research phase of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), will reach a conclusion on the matter on Septemeber 9, government sources said Tuesday.

The ministers' confab, led by Chief Cabinet Secretary Masaharu Gotoda, reviewed their past discussions in a fifth meeting Tuesday morning. They discussed whether Japan's participation in the SDI project would breach a 1969 Diet resolution over peaceful use of space. According to the sources, the Diet resolution is the biggest obstacle to Japan joining in research on SDI, a space-based antimissile system known as "star wars."

The ministers agreed that Japan's participation would not breach the Diet resolution because the project is being conducted by the U.S. The ministers also agreed that their September 9 meeting will finalize their report to be submitted to the cabinet.

Gotoda told reporters after the Tuesday meeting that the final decision is likely to be made within the first 10 days of this month. He added that he himself would announce the official decision.

In the Tuesday meeting the concerned ministers discussed how research might benefit Japan, Gotoda said. The United States will hold the final rights to any new technology developed in the SDI research, the ministers agreed. But they agreed that the result should be available to Japanese companies participating in the study, Gotoda said.

The ministers also concluded that their decision that SDI participation would not breach the Diet resolution must be explained to the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party through the Foreign Ministry. Gotoda said the ministers considered objections by opposition parties to Japan's joining SDI research. They will discuss the matter from "all considerable aspects" in the final meeting on next Tuesday, Gotoda added.

KURIHARA LEAVES FOR MEETING WITH WEINBERGER

0W021053 Tokyo KYODO in English 1050 GMT 2 Sep 86

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 2 KYODO -- State Minister and Defense Agency Chief Yuko Kurihara left for the United States Tuesday for a regular consultation with U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Kurihara will meet Weinberger in Washington Friday and return to Japan Monday.

TAMURA LEAVES FOR TRADE MEETING IN PORTUGAL

0W310801 Tokyo KYODO in English 0704 GMT 31 Aug 86

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 31 KYODO -- Hajime Tamura, minister of international trade and industry, left for Portugal Sunday to attend a three-day meeting with his colleagues from three other major trading blocs to be held in a Lisbon suburb.

Joining Tamura at the so-called quadrilateral meeting, starting Thursday, will be top trade officials of the United States, Canada and the European Community (EC).

The meeting is designed to establish a common front toward a projected new round of multilateral talks for freer world trade. The trade talks are expected to be kicked off at a ministerial meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Punta del Este, Uruguay, September 15-19.

GROUPS PROTEST KURANARI MEETING WITH BOTHA

OW020733 Tokyo KYODO in English 0725 GMT 2 Sep 86

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 2 KYODO -- Representatives from the Japan Socialist Party and four antiapartheid groups met with Foreign Ministry officials Tuesday to protest a scheduled meeting between Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari and his South African counterpart Roelof F. Botha.

Botha is due to arrive in Japan Wednesday for a five-day visit. The foreign ministers' meeting, tentatively scheduled for Thursday morning, will be the first high-level exchange between Japan and South Africa, which do not have full diplomatic relations.

In a prepared statement delivered by Chisato Tatebayashi of the JSP's International Bureau, the organizations -- including the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (Sohyo) and the Japan Anti-Apartheid Committee -- demanded that the foreign minister retract permission for Botha's entry into Japan. If permission is not to be withdrawn, the activists demanded there be no contact between Botha and Japanese Government officials. The group also called for Japan to introduce more stringent economic sanctions against South Africa.

Kunisada Kume, deputy director general of the ministry's Middle East and African Affairs Bureau, explained that Botha is to visit Japan as a tourist and that the meeting with Kuranari was requested by the South African side. He said the request was accepted because Japan wants to "use this opportunity to tell (South Africa) about Japan's antiapartheid stance."

The consul-general of the Republic of South Africa in Tokyo said Botha, while on his private visit, will attend other unofficial meetings, but declined to disclose details.

Kume said Japan, which bans direct investment in South Africa, will cooperate with the European Community and the United States in introducing harsher economic sanctions.

1 KILLED, 8 WOUNDED IN ATTACKS AGAINST UNIONISTS

HK010536 Hong Kong AFP in English 0529 GMT 1 Sep 86

[Text] Tokyo, Sept 11 (AFP) -- One person was killed and eight others were wounded in attacks at six separate locations Monday against trade unionists favorable to ending the nationalisation of the Japanese railways, police said.

Police said they suspected a leading extreme left group, the Chukaku-Ha, of mounting the dawn attacks in Tokyo, Osaka and Kobe against the homes of the unionists, who belonged to a rival leftist union, the Kaku-Maru. They said members of the unionists' families were hurt in the attacks carried out by the groups of helmeted men armed with clubs and iron bars.

FISCAL 1987 BUDGET REQUESTS UP 6.7 PERCENT

0W300955 Tokyo KYODO in English 0930 GMT 30 Aug 86

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 30 KYODO -- Government departments have sought appropriations totaling 57.70 trillion yen for the fiscal 1987 general account budget, up 6.7 percent from the current fiscal year ending next March, the Finance Ministry reported Saturday.

Requests for general expenditures -- the general account total minus debt-servicing costs and tax allocations to local governments -- came to 32.75 trillion yen, up 0.5 percent the ministry said. The minimal increase resulted from the ministry's five-year-old austerity policy. The ministry had urged all government departments to reduce budget requests from last year's levels. But some programs were allowed increased requests. They included defense spending, up 6.3 percent to 3.55 trillion yen, and official development assistance (ODA), up 7.4 percent to 316.9 billion yen.

The strong 6.7 percent rise in the total budget requests was due to a 24.9 percent surge to 14.14 trillion yen in the debt-servicing program (redemptions and interest payments on government bonds), ministry officials said. Debt servicing has become the largest single program, which accounts for nearly a quarter -- 24.5 percent -- of the fiscal 1987 general account spending. Outstanding government bonds are expected to total a whopping 151 trillion yen at the end of fiscal 1987 compared with 143 trillion yen a year earlier, the officials said.

The ministry is set to begin next week the painful job of paring down the requested spending to the 55 trillion yen level for the general account budget and to the fiscal

DPRK 'WILL NOT PARTICIPATE' IN SEOUL ASIAN GAMES

SK010204 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2150 GMT 31 Aug 86

[NODONG SINMUN 1 September commentary: "We Will Not Participate in Impure Games"]

[Text] It has been learned that the 10th Asian Games will be held in Seoul from 20 September to 5 October. In the past, the Asian Games, held once every 4 years, have helped to develop Asian sports and promote friendship and unity among athletes. The 10th Asian games should also be a sound sporting event that helps increase friendship between the Asian countries, peoples, and athletes and that promotes their unity in accordance with the Olympics.

However, this time the games are being used for impure political aims running counter to the ideals of the Olympics and sportsmanship. Taking advantage of the fact that the Asian Games are being held in Seoul, the South Korean authorities are using the games to instigate North-South confrontation and to foster division.

They are continuously fabricating and spreading rumors that we are attempting to launch armed infiltration and provocations with the approach of the games. Thus, they are using the games to instigate antagonism and a sense of confrontation against us by strengthening the anticomunist commotion and war exercises, and to aggravate tension.

Furthermore, they are accelerating troop reinforcements against us, raving that they are going to ensure the success of the Asian Games by force. At the April security consultative meeting held with the United States in Seoul, the South Korean authorities requested the assistance of the armed forces and protection under the nuclear umbrella to prepare for the Asian Games and the Olympics. They are continuously dragging various types of new military equipment, including F-16 fighters, into South Korea. Why are military aircraft needed for sports games? We need not explain that there is no relationship between troop reinforcements and sports games, between a nuclear umbrella and sports games, and between anticomunist commotion and sports games.

The alarming moves in South Korea are inconsistent with the lofty ideals of the Olympics and sportsmanship. The Asian Games, reportedly to be held in Seoul, cannot be well-intended games designed to promote sports.

The South Korean puppets attracted the Asian Games and the Olympics to Seoul with the intent from the very beginning of creating favorable circumstances for their two Koreas plot by perpetuating the nation's division on the pretext of international sports festivals and by using it to help prolong their hold on power.

From the early stages of discussing the venue of the Asian Games, as well as that of the Olympics, the South Korean ruling faction has rigorously carried out behind-the-scenes dealings, while raving that such events will open favorable prospects for simultaneous entry into the United Nations, cross-recognition, and cross-contacts.

This shows that creating international circumstances for the two Koreas plot through acceptance into the United Nations and cross-recognition was Seoul's true motive for hosting the Asian sports games.

Holding an international sports festival in one part of a divided country, like ours, will only aggravate North-South confrontation and inspire division. This is very harmful [paekhae muik] to the reunification of our country and to peace on the Korean peninsula and in Asia. This is why public opinion at home and abroad, which treasures justice and peace, opposes and rejects Seoul's hosting of the Asian Games.

According to reports, only 21 of the 36 member nations had submitted their entry applications by 27 August, 4 days before the entry application deadline for these games. This shows that the games will be very inactive [chojohan] ones, compared to the Ninth Games in which 33 countries participated.

The South Korean youth and students, not yielding to vicious repression by the puppet police, are persistently struggling to check the unilateral holding of the Asian Games and the Olympics. On 27 August, several hundred students of Hanyang University gathered on campus and held a rally to resolutely check the pro-division [of the Korean peninsula] Asian Games and carried out a stone-throwing battle against the combat police, who were running amok with repression.

The advance of the youth and students is an extremely just and righteous act reflecting the unanimous demand of the South Korean people. However, the South Korean ruling faction is resorting to violence in an attempt to realize its impure political aims by blocking at any cost the struggle continuously carried out by the youth, students, and people to oppose the Asian Games.

The South Korean rulers have practically put South Korea under martial law by handing down in succession various repressive orders, including the order for emergency guards and the order for emergency guard duty on the pretext of maintaining social stability and order for the Asian Games. Thus, they are blocking the patriotic advance of the youth, students, and people by fully mobilizing the repressive forces.

Under conditions in which the South Korean rulers are misusing the Asian Games for impure political aims, participation in these games cannot but instigate dictatorship. Therefore, participation in the Asian Games is not merely a sports issue, but a serious political issue as well. The Korean people have been suffering from the nation's division for more than 40 years. Our people, who ardently aspire for national reunification, do not tolerate any factor creating obstacles to reunification. We who aspire for reunification cannot participate [kaeip] in an act that helps divide the nation. Thus, we cannot participate in the 10th Asian Games to be held in Seoul.

We firmly believe that our just position faithful to our national cause and contributing to the cause of maintaining peace in Asia will enjoy deserved sympathy and support from the world's people and sports circles.

DOOR STILL 'OPEN' FOR DPRK TO PARTICIPATE IN ASIAD

OW010825 Tokyo KYODO in English 0820 GMT 1 Sep 86

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 1 KYODO -- The Seoul Asian Games Organizing Committee (SAGOC) said Monday the door will be open until September 20, the opening day for the Asiad, if North Korea wishes to reverse its decision and participate in the games. SAGOC officials discounted as a foregone conclusion Monday's official announcement in the (North) Korea Workers' Party official organ, NODONG SINMUN, that the communist North will sit out the Asiad because it claimed South Korea is using the games for political purposes.

PYONGYANG PLANNING TO SUBVERT ASIAN GAMES

SK291231 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Report by correspondent Yu Sung-che from Tokyo]

[Text] On 29 August TONGIL ILBO [ROK Government-backed paper published in Japan] reported by quoting a source well informed in the internal affairs of the puppet North that on 10 August the puppet North held an expanded meeting of the so-called Workers' Party Political Bureau and reconfirmed a decision to conduct subversive activities by mobilizing all possible means to check the Seoul Asian Games.

The source disclosed that the expanded meeting of the Political Bureau -- in which full and alternate members of the Workers' Party Political Bureau of the puppet North, vice premiers, and department director-level officials dealing with operations against South Korea participated and, in particular, at which Kim Il-song showed up for a while -- reconfirmed the policy of mobilizing all means to abort or hinder the Asian Games.

The source said that Kim Chong-il, the son of Kim Il-song; O Chin-u, minister of the people's armed forces; and others are leading subversive operations against the Asian Games.

The source revealed that the meeting also reconfirmed the decision to employ international terrorists -- a concrete way to subvert the Asian Games -- by learning a lesson from the failure of the Rangoon assassination incident in which the direct involvement of the puppet North's operatives was brought to light and because of which the puppet North caused itself to be isolated internationally, adding that because terrorists from Europe or the Middle East are easily recognizable, the meeting decided to use Japanese terrorists. The source also disclosed that it was decided at the meeting to employ Koreans in Japan -- just as the puppet North did when it perpetrated the Mun Se-kwang incident in 1974 -- or to win over anti-system forces in Korea and Koreans who frequently visit Japan and have relatives who live there.

Calling to mind the fact that the puppet North recently committed shooting incidents on two occasions along the truce line, the source said the incidents are linked to the decision of the puppet North's Political Bureau to constantly conduct subversive operations against the Asian Games by mobilizing all means, and added that the puppet North seeks to incite a sense of unrest among the participating countries by showing the fact that tension between North and South Korea is growing higher before the opening of the Asian Games.

180 STUDENTS ARRESTED BEFORE ASIA GAMES

SK300335 Seoul YONHAP in English 0320 GMT 30 Aug 86

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 30 (YONHAP) -- The Supreme Public Prosecutors' Office, following a four-month investigation into Korea's two radical student groups, Saturday announced that it has arrested 180 members of the groups and is seeking 91 others. The "Minmintu" and "Chamintu," two extremist student organizations set up on university campuses, have masterminded violent anti-government demonstrations, both on and off campus, and have staged street riots, according to the announcement.

Among those arrested, 154 were put under formal arrest, 11 were booked without physical detention and 15 others were relieved of their prosecution [as received], the office reported. Sixty-three of the 154 under custody were charged with violating the national security law, eight with rioting, 17 with breaking the law governing the punishment of violent acts, 42 with violating the law on assembly and demonstrations, and 24 are under investigation, according to the announcement.

The prosecution defined the two groups as "leftist-leaning" and "pro-communist," pointing out that "Minmintu" and "Chamintu" have set a goal of overthrowing Korea's liberal democratic system through violent revolution of the masses in an effort to bring radical socialism to the nation. The groups' leaders have been listening to North Korea's anti-Seoul broadcast programs, thereby exposing themselves to North Korea's leftist ideology, it added.

To advance their goals, "Minmintu" and "Chamintu" had been capitalizing on the efforts of the ruling and opposition parties to revise the Constitution through compromise, as well as the government's policy of trying to create harmony for the upcoming Asian Games and 1986 Seoul Olympics. The two groups are trying to unite their members, both workers and students, through pro-communist ideology, according to the office.

The members of the two groups are more radical than those of "Sammintu" and do not recognize the current political system, it said. Key members of the "Sammin Struggle Committee," which represents national unification, liberation of the masses and struggle for democracy, were rounded up last year. According to the office, the "Minmintu" and "Chamintu" have led violent demonstrations and have illegally occupied public buildings, chanting anti-American and anti-government slogans, in line with their ideological booklets, which advocate "Liberation declaration."

Since it was established on Feb. 5, the "Minmintu," which is committed to "Anti-Americanism, anti-fascism and democracy," has infiltrated 39 universities. The "Chamintu" was set up last March at Seoul National University and Korea University to fight "anti-military fascism."

NKDP Refutes Prosecution Claims

SK310156 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 31 Aug 86 p 1

[Text] The major opposition New Korea Democratic Party claimed yesterday that the outcome of the investigation in the prosecution of "Minmintu" and "Chamintu," major dissident students groups, is very different from what was uncovered by the party's Human Rights Committee.

Party spokesman Hong Sa-tok issued a statement, refuting the prosecution's claim that the two dissident forces have masterminded left-leaning anti-government demonstrations in the first semester of this year.

Hong asserted, "The only way to stop radical students' anti-government struggle is to repeal the quarter century-long anti-democratic constitutional order and return to the path towards democracy at the earliest possible moment."

POLICE PLAN TO PREVENT STUDENTS DISRUPTING ASIAD

Students Form 'Struggle' Groups

SK300008 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Aug 86 p 8

[Text] The police are learned to be all out in taking precautionary measures against possible surprise rallies by radical students during the Asian Games period upon a tip that activist students have organized a struggle committee to foil the Asiad.

The police efforts are focused on disbanding the committee by detecting it in advance and secluding activist students from stadiums during the games period, informed sources said.

According to the sources, four to 10 activist students are to form a group and launch a surprise rally on an individual university basis at the games sites.

In the case of the gymnasium of Seoul National University where table tennis matches will be held, the police decided to set up a steel fence around the gymnasium.

Police will be on guard in and around the gymnasium around the clock starting Sept. 16.

The police are working out special precautionary measures for the Suwon campus of Sungkyunkwan University where Taekwondo matches will take place and also for Hanyang University where volleyball games will be held.

Plan to 'Seclude' Activists

SK310222 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 31 Aug 86 p 8

[Text] Student activists and drop-outs who are listed as "dangerous" for possibly holding a surprise rally during the Asian Games period are likely to be urged to voluntarily enlist for military service before the opening of the Asian Games on Sept. 20.

In a way to prevent the so-called "activist sphere" from taking sabotage actions, the Education Ministry and other concerned authorities are reportedly busy working out measures to "seclude" student activists during the period of the games.

As for 129 drop-outs who were suspected to have masterminded past campus disturbances, the authorities intend to take speedy procedures require for them to join the Army before the Asiad, it was learned.

The authorities will take similar measures for 130 activist students, classified as "A" class for their active role in student movements.

The Office of Military Manpower Administration usually conscripts shortly after university students are suspended or expelled from school.

If the listed student activists refuse to accept the "advice" for advance enlistment for military duty, the school authorities are supposed to assume responsibility for their seclusion.

The school authorities reportedly plan to arrange "forced" tours for the students during the Asian Games period.

In case such seclusion measures are not effective, the authorities are examining the possibility of sending them to summary courts on the grounds that they masterminded roles in the previous student demonstrations.

Upon learning that radical students plot to stage surprise rallies at sports facilities for the Asiad period, the police have stepped up supervision on the whereabouts of some 5,200 students listed as activists.

PRC TO USE DIRECT FLIGHTS TO SEOUL FOR ASIAD

OW301136 Tokyo KYODO in English 1127 GMT 30 Aug 86

[Text] Seoul, Aug 30 KYODO -- South Korea is to allow China to make direct flights to Seoul to send its athletic delegation to the Asian Games starting September 20, Seoul Asian Games Organizing Committee (Sagoc) sources said Saturday. The schedule for the first direct Chinese flights envisages charters by China's state-run airline, Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC), on September 12 and 15 to send athletes and officials nonstop between Beijing and Seoul. The plan has been approved by South Korea's Transportation Ministry. China and South Korea have no diplomatic relations.

South Korea has been keen for the 520-strong Chinese delegation to use direct flights to Seoul in view of the fact that the North Korean sports delegation flew nonstop from Pyongyang to Narita, on the outskirts of Tokyo, last summer to take part in the Universiad, the student Olympics, in Kobe, western Japan. Japan and North Korea also have no diplomatic ties.

Wei Jizhong, an official of the Chinese Olympic Committee, said on August 16 that the Chinese delegation would use direct flights. China applied for the direct flights to Seoul since North Korea, which usually keeps a watchful eye on the Seoul-Beijing relationships, did not raise strong objections to the plan because of its similar facilities at the Universiad, sports sources here said.

STATEMENT OF DELEGATE TO N.-S. RED CROSS TALKS

SK280439 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0217 GMT 28 Aug 86

[Text] Yi Yong-tok, senior delegate of our side to the North-South Red Cross talks issued a statement this morning urging the North Korean side to come to the table for Red Cross talks. The statement reads: Statement by senior delegate to our side to the North-South Red Cross talks:

The North Korean side has persistently failed to send a reply to our side's 11 July proposal that the 11th round of the North-South Red Cross talks be held in Pyongyang today. I cannot but express concern over the fact that suspension of the North-South Red Cross talks has been prolonged due to the North Korean side's refusal of our proposal. As with last year, this year, too, the North Korean side unilaterally postponed indefinitely the 11th round of the North-South Red Cross talks, which both sides had agreed to hold on 26 February, using the excuse of the "Team Spirit" military exercise.

Following completion of the "Team Spirit" military exercise, North Korean side came up again with the so-called tripartite military talks proposal claiming that only when such tripartite military talks are held first and progress is made then can the suspended North-South Red Cross talks be resumed. In addition to this, recently the North Korean side created another obstacle to North-South dialogue by linking our domestic affairs to it.

Such an attitude on the part of the North Korean side evades the resolution of humanitarian problems between the North and South, completely running counter to the spirit and principle of the Red Cross societies and unilaterally destroying the agreements reached between both sides. Therefore, we cannot but deplore this.

In the North-South Red Cross talks which were held last year after 12 years, both sides agreed to hold a package discussion of the 5 agenda items and to make free travel one of the methods for implementing the 5 agenda items. Thus, the talks achieved some progress. Furthermore, numerous separated families in the North and South, who witnessed the exchanges of home-visiting groups of separated families last year, want to see the Red Cross talks progress well again this year so that all separated families can visit their hometowns and meet their relatives.

Such being the situation, the North Korean side has refused to hold the 11th round of the North-South Korean Red Cross talks by coming up with political and military excuses which are contrary to reason. Completely ignoring the desires of separated families and the expectations of all brethren cannot be considered a manifestation of insincerity. As everyone knows, ideologies and ideals should be transcended in resolving humanitarian problems. The resolution of humanitarian problems should not be delayed on the unilaterally solely because of political or military issues.

This notwithstanding, the North Korean side has come up with tripartite military talks and the issue of our domestic affairs in a bid to use them as a precondition for the Red Cross talks. This cannot but be condemned as utilizing humanitarian issues for insidious political purposes. At the same time, this will lead the people of the world to doubt the basic stand and attitude of the North Korean side. While talking about compatriotic love and humanitarianism, the North Korean side has repeated the irresponsible act of unilaterally suspending ongoing talks by frequently violating agreements and by picking on the other side's domestic affairs under the pretext of creating an atmosphere for dialogue.

Failure to resolve the problem of over 10 million separated families dispersed in the North and South is attributed precisely to this attitude on the North Korean side. The North Korean side should not suspend the humanitarian talks by bringing up problems which have nothing to do with the Red Cross talks but should show sincerity towards the existing Red Cross talks and toward resolution of the problem of separated families proving through deeds that what they say is credible.

We urge that if the North Korean side is really interested in resolving the problem of separated families it should renounce its unwarranted act turning down the desire of separated families and running counter to the progress of dialogue and should unconditionally participate in the 11th round North-South Red Cross talks at the earliest possible date.

[Dated] 28 August 1986

[Signed] Yi Yong-tok, senior delegate of the Taehan [ROK] Red Cross Society.

50,000 ATTEND OPPOSITION RALLY IN PUSAN 30 AUG

BK301530 Hong Kong AFP in English 1509 GMT 30 Aug 86

[Text] Pusan, South Korea, Aug 30 (AFP) -- An estimated 50,000 people attended an opposition rally in this southern port city Saturday to press for direct presidential elections eyewitnesses said. The rally, hosted by the major opposition New Korea Democratic party (NKDP), was held at a playground in the western outskirts of this provincial city in defiance of a government ban on outdoor rallies. Police reported no clashes during or after the rally, which lasted for over two hours. Eyewitnesses said that NKDP followers did not try to take to the streets after the rally broke up as they have often done in the past. Few dissident students turned up at the rally, they added.

It was the first opposition rally held since the ruling and opposition parties launched a bipartisan parliamentary committee last month charged with working out a compromise version of new constitution. The opposition has been pushing for a constitutional amendment that would allow South Korea's president to be chosen by popular vote. As the rally, opposition leader Kim Yong-sam, an NKDP advisor, threatened to give up dialogue with the ruling camp and resort to people's power if the ruling party continues to advocate a parliamentary system of government. The opposition wants a presidential system in which the head of state is elected through direct popular vote, while the ruling party favors a cabinet system similar to the one in West Germany. Kim Yong-sam stressed that the opposition demand for a direct presidential election is the only way to solve the legitimacy problem, which he said was inherent in the current regime. He was apparently referring to the fact that President Chon Tu-hwan rose to power through a military coup in 1980.

Kim Tae-chung, another top opposition leader, was placed under house arrest in Seoui early Saturday to prevent him from attending the rally. It was the 33rd time the 61-year-old opposition politician had been put under house arrest since he returned home in February last year. Kim Tae-chung, in a taped message played at the rally, also said the direct presidential election system, instead of the current indirect electoral college system, is the surest way to being about democracy. He charged the ruling Democratic Justice party (DJP) with trying to introduce a cabinet system to prolong its hold on power because the DJP stands a slim chance of winning a direct presidential election.

The KJP has held rallies in three provincial cities since Thursday to promote the merits of a cabinet government system.

PREM MEETS SIHANOUK, PLEDGES CONTINUED SUPPORT

BK280825 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 28 Aug 86 p 1

[Text] Kampuchean leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk this morning paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon during which the Kampuchean problem was discussed.

The president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea claimed growing popular support for his resistance movement as Vietnam faced more problems of desertion, Secretary-General to the Prime Minister Prasong Sunsiri said.

Gen Prem for his part pledged continued support for the tripartite alliance, Sqn Ldr Prasong added.

At the same time, Prince Sihanouk congratulated Gen Prem on his re-appointment and informed him of his recent visits to Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila was also present at the meeting at Government House.

Further on Meeting

BK281518 Bangkok Television Service in Thai 1300 GMT 28 Aug 86

[Text] At 1100 today visiting Prince Sihanouk called on Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon at Government House for official consultations. They were joined by Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila. Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, secretary general to the prime minister, said that the meeting lasted about half an hour. Prince Sihanouk discussed the military situation of the Khmer Tripartite forces, saying that they are at a great advantage while the Vietnamese troops are at a disadvantage. More Cambodian people are supporting the Khmer coalition government, and more Heng Samrin troops are defecting to the CGDK forces. Prince Sihanouk expressed gratitude to his majesty the king for helping the Cambodian people in Thailand and thanked the Thai people for extending support and assistance to liberating Cambodia. The prime minister expressed the intention of Thailand and ASEAN to support the Cambodian people's search for independence and peace.

[Begin Prasong Recording] The prime minister hopes that Sihanouk's leadership will be able to bring independence and peace to Cambodia in the future. The prime minister also told Prince Sihanouk that if they can win the hearts of the Cambodian people, they will win the war in Cambodia. [end recording]

The atmosphere of the meeting was friendly. Both Gen Prem and Prince Sihanouk appeared smiling. Gen Prem saw Prince Sihanouk to his car.

SITTHI RESPONDS TO PHOUN SIPASENT MESSAGE

BK281529 Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 28 Aug 86 pp 1, 16

[Text] Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshall Sitthi Sawetsila on 22 August sent a letter to Lao Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut thanking the latter for congratulating him on the occasion of his reappointment as Thai foreign minister.

The Thai foreign minister stressed to Laos Thailand's policy of "being determined to work for a better and close relationship with Laos."

The Thai foreign minister says in his message that he is "happy to be able to work to develop and strengthen the friendship between the two countries in the interests of the people of both. I really look forward to cooperation with your excellency,"

A Thai official told NAE0 NA on 27 August that the Thai Foreign minister's letter is in response to Laos' improved attitude shown during the formation of a new government in Thailand and especially in the 5 August statement of Lao Premier Kaysone Phomvihan. The Lao leader's statement, following the 4-5 August cabinet session, indicated that Laos is ready for talks with Thailand either at the government or local-level" to pave the way to strengthen mutual trust and understanding between Thailand and Laos." Thai officials consider Laos' approach a change from its stance of the past 2 years.

Late last week, the Thai foreign minister sent a message to Interior Minister General Prachuap Suntharangkun seeking the latter's cooperation in arranging local-level talks between the governors of Thailand's border provinces and the Lao side. On this, the interior minister told NAE0 NA at parliament on Wednesday that he had already given the provincial governors instructions concerning the message from the Foreign Ministry.

According to Thai officials, the governors of the border provinces near Laos are empowered by the instruction to contact their Lao counterparts directly to resolve problems, renew cultural exchanges, and promote trade relations between people at the border.

USSR'S ZAYTSEV ARRIVES 31 AUG ON 4-DAY VISIT

BK010212 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Sep 86 p 3

[Text] Moscow will support initiatives in talks between ASEAN and Indochina, a senior Soviet official said yesterday.

Anatoliy Zaytsev, director-general on Southeast Asian affairs, said on his arrival yesterday that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev wanted to seek good relations among neighbours in the Asia-Pacific region.

The official, who is here on a four-day visit, said dialogue is the only means to achieve regional security based on mutual benefits.

He said Moscow supported prospects for a normalisation of relations between China and Vietnam which, if realised, would ease tension in the region.

Mr Zaytsev is due to hold talks with Thai officials on topics to be discussed in the United Nations General Assembly this year.

MOVE AGAINST WIRA ALSO SEEN AIMED AT PREM

BK301115 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 28 Aug 86

[Article: "Wira's Case -- A Point for Political Parties To Ponder"]

[Text] Political battles among politicians and political parties in Thailand usually mean dirty tactics, no rules, and no regard for the long term consequences. There are no rules in the conduct of political fights...the only important thing is to win.

In a democratic system, political struggle must be waged within generally accepted limits and rules, but in Thailand this philosophy has been rejected through the repeated use of dirty tricks; and time and time again this has led to coups d'etat or, in recent years, to violence among mass groups. All of this is the result of the selfish nature of certain politicians and political groups.

The issue involving Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong, who has been accused of having made remarks insulting to the monarchy, is a case in point. The side with ill intentions toward Wira has picked on the case to try to destroy him. The people who taped Wira's campaign speeches in Buriram did so to gather ammunition to hinder him in the elections, and they filed charges with the police just so that legal action could be taken if warranted. But the matter did not stop there. A political party, which was a member of the previous coalition but which has been left out of the current government, has used its ultrarightist background and the mass agitation skills which have brought it a number of political successes to start a campaign. This party has printed mass agitation pamphlets and distributed them among village scouts in Bangkok. It has also discreetly played the tape to some army generals in order to spread the anti-Wira campaign within the Army.

The result of all this is that the playing up of Wira's campaign remarks has been exploited on a continuing basis by certain political parties to destroy Wira politically. A group of senators have also submitted a motion to pressure the government to do something against Wira.

The Wira tape has become a weapon which on the surface appears to be targeted at Wira, but closer examination reveals that the target is General Prem. The argument is that because Gen Prem is absolutely loyal to the monarchy, he should not have included Wira, who stands accused of insulting the monarchy, in the cabinet. And if Gen Prem protects Wira, he will open the door for attacks from his adversaries. For this reason, Wira seems to be the small political bait to catch the real target, Gen Prem.

The anti-Prem power brokers and political groups are well aware of Gen Prem's strong points and hope to use the Wira tape to weaken them, but waging a political fight using accusations involving the institution beloved by the people will always run the risk of confusion and violence, and the democratic system which politicians profess to cherish could well be destroyed as a result.

It is this that the political parties must consider carefully. Therefore, should the issue of the Wira tape be left to the law to consider, or should it be used to instigate mob rule as happened on 6 October 1976?

PREM DEFENDS HANDLING OF WIRA CASE TO OPPOSITION

BK28025/. Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Aug 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] An apparently angry Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon yesterday rejected charges, made during a secret parliamentary session, that he was protecting a Cabinet member accused by certain quarters of having made a lese majeste statement.

MPs quoted General Prem as telling Prachakon Thai leader Samak Sunthorawet during the closed-door session. "I value my life less than I value the monarchy. I am willing to die for the monarch anytime."

Gen Prem reportedly told Samak: "I have never been so depressed in the life over the statement against me on this matter." [as published]

Government MPs late yesterday morning called for the closed session after opposition MPs attacked the way General Prem was handling the alleged slur by Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong on the monarchy -- despite Samak's vehement protest against the parliamentary session, chaired by Parliament President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin, being conducted in camera.

Informed sources said that the controversy would not end with General Prem's response yesterday and Wira's apology to the Monarch on Monday. There is widespread speculation Wira might have to resign to defuse the growing political uproar.

As opposition leaders yesterday repeated their threats to censure the government, Muanchon Party leader Chaloem Yubamrung said he would organize rallies at Sanam Luang and in the provinces if there is no action on the lese majeste accusations against Wira.

He said he was not concerned about any actions that the authorities might take, although he mentioned the possibility that the police might be reluctant to launch proceedings because of Wira's position as deputy interior minister.

Chaloem also said he would not recommend whether Wira should resign -- there are many other actions that can be taken, he said. But he said it would be wrong for Wira and the government to try to sit out the controversy without doing anything.

He said he had taped the closed session of Parliament yesterday, and would reveal what had taken place if rallies are organized at Sanam Luang.

MPs emerging from the meeting said Wira had argued that he was always loyal to the monarchy. Democrat MP Trairong Suwannakhiri said Wira had pointed out that his accuser -- Prachakon Thai leader Samak Sunthorawet -- had made no comment until he had switched from being a member of the government to a member of the opposition. Wira said this showed that Samak was using the disloyalty claim for political purposes, according to Trairong.

Chaloem described Wira's arguments as weak. If Wira had said what he said only once, then it could be excused as a slip, Chaloem said. But Wira had made the statement twice which invalidate his claim that it was unintentional, Chaloem said.

Opposition leaders were united in their condemnation of the order to go into secret session. Samak said the argument that the debate would refer to the monarchy was an invalid argument because his intention was to criticize the prime minister and not the monarchy.

Chaloem said Banyat Banthatthan's claim to justify his proposal for the secret session, that he was acting according to a Cabinet decision, could not be true because ministers would not have had an opportunity yesterday to reach such an agreement.

UDP [United Democratic Party] leader Buntheng Thongsawat said this was the first time that the government's policy statement had been debated in camera. He said it was disastrous, and that the public would suspect that there were improper dealings going on. He said he was unhappy, but could not reveal what went on in the closed session.

Earlier, Progressive leader Uthai Phimchaichon repeated the opposition's determination to submit a no-confidence motion against the government if no satisfactory action is taken within seven days from Tuesday. The opposition proposes three steps: to submit a parliamentary question (which was not allowed on the agenda today), taking the issue to the House Committee on Administration, and proposing a no-confidence debate.

Uthai also said the opposition bloc would not allow Wira to be taken for trial during the parliamentary session, a statement which Chaloem later echoed.

The Muanchon leader said it would be counter to long-standing tradition for Parliament to permit its members to stand trial in connection with criminal charges while Parliament is in session.

Emerging from the session, Wira told reporters he was relieved to have made clarifications in Parliament.

He said that during the House session today, he will ask for a permission to stand trial in the court on the lese majeste charges.

Reponding to the opposition's call for Wira's resignation, Democrat spokeswoman Suphatra Matsadit said that if Wira quit the Cabinet post, the government would be bowing to pressure from the opposition.

"I don't think he will resign in such a circumstance for his resignation can be taken as a government defeat and an opposition's victory," she told reporters. Moreover, she said, the court has not ruled whether Wira was guilty or not.

Suphattra accused the opposition of attempting to prolong the prosecution against Wira during the parliamentary session.

"The opposition bloc is trying to drag on the case in order to have a chance to continue attacking Wira," the Democrat spokeswoman said.

She was referring to the opposition's plan to vote against a proposal to allow Wira to stand trial in connection with the lese majeste charge during today's weekly House meeting.

The government MPs, she said, are expected to vote in favour of the proposal because "they wished to see the settlement of the controversy in court as soon as possible."

The permission will be made in response to a recent request by the Interior Ministry to have Wira -- concurrently the Democrat secretary general -- tried for his alleged lese majeste remarks during campaign rallies in Buriram on July 13.

Under the Constitution, parliamentarians cannot be tried, summoned or investigated while Parliament is in session without prior consent from the House Speaker or Senate Speaker.

Suphattra, an MP representing Nakhon Si Thammarat, said the four coalition partners commanding 231 votes in the 347-seat House of Representatives would be able to push for the proposal without much difficulty despite the opposition's attempt to stall the case.

Piyanat Watcharaphon, secretary general of the opposition Ruam Thai Party, said all the opposition parties including the UDP leader Buntheng have agreed to vote down the proposal to allow Wira to be prosecuted.

It would run against the long-preserved parliamentary tradition to let its member be tried on criminal charges during the House session, he said. The 115 opposition MPs are expected to vote unanimously against the issue, said the Sisaket MP.

Suphattra dismissed as groundless reports that a number of Democrats have called for the resignation from the Cabinet of Wira for the sake of the government's stability. "The case has yet to be finalized by the court. Therefore, one cannot claim that he was found guilty of the charge," she said, adding that Wira's resignation would also be a victory for the opposition.

HOUSE VOTES TO ALLOW WIRA TO STAND TRIAL

BK290239 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Aug 86 p 3

[Excerpt] The House of Representatives voted 171-0 yesterday to let Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong stand trial on a lese majeste charge.

The vote, in which the opposition abstained, was called without any debate. Earlier, MPs voted 158-86 that National Democracy Party MP Gen Kriangsak Chamanan should continue to face the September 9 coup bid trial.

The vote ended the parliamentary tradition under which MPs are immune from criminal prosecution while the House is in session. However, hearings must not be scheduled on the same day as the House sessions, as requested by Gen Kriangsak.

Mr Wira and Gen Kriangsak asked the House to waive their immunity from criminal investigation of legal proceedings accorded to MPs under the Constitution.

The House also voted 210-1 to ask the criminal court to release and cease proceedings against Phuket MP Rewut Chindaphon while the House is in session in line with Constitutional Article 123. The lone dissenter came from the Prachakon Thai ranks.

The New Force Party MP, who was charged with involvement in the June 23 tantalum plant riot, was granted bail but has to report to police every 12 days.

Mr Rewut submitted a request to House Speaker Chuan Likphai to have proceedings against him suspended during the session and the matter was put directly to the vote.

During the debate on Gen Kriangsak's case, several whips and senior coalition figures went into a huddle, seeking a vote in line with the MPs' request.

Later, government MPs said the coalition coordination committee had earlier agreed to vote to maintain Gen Kriangsak's immunity but allow Mr Wira to go on trial because the nature of the cases differed.

When Gen Kriangsak requested leave to attend the trial while debate on the other issue was in full swing, the government whips became confused and quickly changed their agreement, and let the coup suspect attend the trial.

The Justice Ministry asked for House permission to continue the trial.

Gen Kriangsak said his continued immunity would delay the case and cause further hardship to the 35 junior officers and civilians still being detained.

The former premier said the suspects only obeyed orders during the coup attempt.

Chart Thai MP Col Prachan Sawangchit backed Gen Kriangsak's request, saying he had been involved in the coup attempt in that he tried to stall it. Describing Gen Kriangsak's request as a sacrifice and a show of courage, the former Young Turk asked the House to acquiesce on the request.

Progressive party MP Phaithun Mokkamakun said that at stake was Constitutional Article 122, which accorded MPs immunity because it was designed to prevent malicious attempts against opposition members for political advantage.

Rat Buri MP Pol Lt Chaowarin Latthasaksiri said Gen Kriangsak's request was well-intended and would help the other coup suspects. The trial would have to be postponed in every future session if Gen Kriangsak's request was turned down, said the Chart Thai MP. [passage omitted]

Wira Ready for Showdown

BK300333 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Aug 86 P 1

[Text] Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong yesterday morning huddled with House Speaker Chuan Likphai. Afterwards, he hinted that he is ready to face a no-confidence onslaught in the House rather than quit the Cabinet post to defuse political pressure.

Details of the closed-door meeting between the two senior Democrat members at the Parliament were not disclosed.

Informed sources had earlier said that Chuan would ask Wira to resign for "his own political future, the party reputation and the stability of the government."

Chuan could not be reached for comments yesterday.

Meanwhile, pressure continued to grow on Wira when Deputy House Speaker Mai Sirinawakun of the Social Action Party (SAP) told reporters that Wira should step down to fend off the looming no-confidence move planned by opposition parties.

He said he believed that the votes by the government MPs would be split on a no-confidence motion, particularly if a secret ballot was called. Mai's statements echoed the views earlier aired by his SAP colleagues, including Surat Thani MP Pinya Chuaiplot, who said he would propose a free vote on the matter in Monday's meeting of the Government-Parliament Coordinating Committee.

Wira, now a lese majeste suspect, yesterday challenged the opposition to accelerate its censure plan against him.

"I want the opposition bloc to launch a no-confidence debate as soon as possible as now I'm prepared to face it," Wira said.

The Phattalung MP said he favoured the government MPs to adopt a free vote in the no-confidence debate expected to be initiated by the opposition camp. "I'm not in a position to force any pro-government MPs to vote in my favour," he said.

Wira's remarks came amidst a growing trend indicating that a number of government lawmakers -- possibly about 45 -- would vote against him if the no-confidence is raised. The opposition currently commands 115 votes in the 347-seat House of Representatives, but the Constitution requires at least 174 no-confidence votes to sack a minister of the government.

He said he thought Premier Prem Tinsulanon as head of government might have been put in a dilemma over the issue. "Therefore, I'll soon seek a meeting with him to inform him that I'll be responsible for the issue."

Asked to comment on House Speaker Chuan Likphai's call for him to step down, Wira said: "Whether I'll resign or not is my own business."

Groups Pressure Democrats

BK300431 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Aug 86 p 2

[Text] Several organized groups yesterday pressed the Democrat Party to remove Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong as punishment for alleged lese majeste remarks.

The pressure groups also demanded that the Democrats pull out of the coalition government to demonstrate their political spirit.

About 20 representatives of the militant "Red Gaurs" movement was the first group to tender a letter to the Democrat Party yesterday morning calling for the party to take action against Wira (Democrat-Phatthalung).

Chaloemchai Matchaklam, a leading right-wing Red Gaurs member, warned the party of worsening situation unless it asked Wira to step down as a minister. He said the movement, founded by Senator Maj Gen Sutsai Hatsadin, would consider a further step if the party failed to meet its demand within 7 days.

Phathai Wisetchanit, who claimed himself as president of the so-called Mass Organization of Thailand, also tendered a separate letter to the party seeking action against Wira.

Other pressure groups present at the Democrat headquarters on Setsiri Road yesterday included the Marine Transportation Workers' Union and the People Force for Democracy Group. Wichian Siwichian the MTWU president, said the Democrat Party should consider withdrawing from the coalition because it was responsible for the nomination of Wira to the Cabinet.

Most Democrats Support Wira

BK310450 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Aug 86 p 3

[Text] Most Democrat MPs still support Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong and want him to stay on to prove himself in court against charges that he insulted the Monarchy.

Five-time Songkhla MP Sawai Phatno urged Mr Wira not to bow to political pressure, saying that it was a political ploy by the opposition parties to destroy the deputy minister and the Democrat Party.

He expressed optimism that the situation would improve once the lese majeste case was filed in court.

Mr Sawai added that he doubted whether Mr Wira would abuse his authority as Deputy Interior Minister to influence the case. "This is a misunderstanding. His (alleged lese majeste) remarks were tape recorded. It is fact which cannot be distorted," he noted.

Party executive committee member, Yasothon MP Phiraphan Phalusu, said that he felt the case was not a difficult one and there is a possibility that Mr Wira would be able to defend himself.

He accused the Opposition of dramatising the incident in order to tarnish the party's reputation.

"Resigning now will not solve the problem, but may appease some political factions or parties which may stop their political activities," he said, adding that resignation would mean a defeat for Mr Wira.

Another Democrat MP, Rayong's Soemsak Karun, noted that the atonement by Mr Wira at the Parliament earlier last week was an adequate demonstration of apology.

"Quitting now will only serve the wish of the Opposition," he said, but added that if Mr Wira was found guilty he would have to resign immediately.

He asked the public to give Mr Wira a chance to clear himself in court.

Songkhla MP Naruchat Bunsuwan said that most party members sympathised with Mr Wira "because we know what is what."

"We won't allow him to resign. We will object...until it is proven that he is guilty," said the MP.

He revealed that Mr Wira had never sought help from the party. "The party will not consider the issue; it depends on Mr Wira alone," he said.

"There is no reason to resign," said Nakhon Si Thammarat MP Shamphan Paenphat. "I believe that, in the end, fact and virtue will prove itself," he added.

WIRA ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION DECISION

BK010723 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 1 Sep 86

[Text] Wira Musikaphong, deputy interior minister, has announced his resignation. He gave the reasons for his resignation at Government House at 0930 this morning.

[Begin Wira recording] The first reason for my resignation is that I want to go to court not holding a cabinet post. In fact, the case is still in the hands of the police, and probably will be sent to the prosecutors and the court later. No matter what the police, prosecutors, or the court say, I am willing to accept the ruling as an ordinary MP or an ordinary person. I have felt all along that if the police take legal action against me, or even if it reaches the prosecutors while I am still deputy interior minister, no matter how sincere I am or what steps I take not to interfere in the administration of legal procedures, it would not be enough to allow the institutions of the police and prosecutors to avoid criticism when the case reaches the prosecutors which is not good for them. When the case reaches the court, the court will also be criticized. So, my resignation is the best way to avoid the problem and to spare our judicial institutions from criticism.

Concerning politics the opposition MP's are trying to put pressure on me to resign. I have already said that I respect the opinion of the opposition, but I will carry out the duties of government since I am on the side of the government. Instead of being a personal affair affecting only me, the issue seems to have spread unnecessarily and without reason to others. We cannot blame anyone for their actions -- a no-confidence debate or whatever is the parliamentary way. The reason I have decided to resign is that I want to end the issue.

The government just announced its policy to the Parliament and has begun to work to solve the problems of the people. You know that the prime minister is determined to solve the problems of poverty, foreign debt, and unemployment. The poverty and unemployment issues have a direct effect on the people. Although not seen clearly, the foreign debt problem also has an impact on the people. The government still has no real chance to tackle problems since it has to worry about the Parliament. Instead of following the performance of the government in solving the poverty, debt, and unemployment problems, the opposition MP's worry about me. I think that we should use the time of the Parliament or the House to work for the people instead of worrying about me. So, after I resign the issue will probably end. [end recording]

'SOURCES' CITED ON MILITARY RESHUFFLE LISTS

BK300958 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 30 Aug 86 p 32

[Text] The annual military reshuffle list has been completed and is expected to be officially announced, probably over the weekend, a well-informed source told the WORLD today.

The source said that the list had been finalised by Defence Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Phaniang Kantarat and had reached the Prime Minister for him to refer it to His Majesty the King for Royal endorsement.

The source confirmed the "completion" of the new assignments by referring to a handover ceremony between outgoing Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek to his successor scheduled for tomorrow at the Supreme Command Headquarters.

The schedule, according to the source, is for Deputy Supreme Commander Adm Supha Kotchasevi to receive the duties of the Supreme Commander from Gen Athit Kamlang-ek whose service ends that day.

He said that the reshuffle contains "no great surprises" with Lt-Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, Commander of the First Army Region, will become Assistant Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

The fast-rising officer, Lt Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, Commander of Special Warfare Headquarters in Lop Buri, rises to a higher position as Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief, according to the source.

Other assignments as learned by the WORLD this morning:

Lt Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun, Commander of the First Army Area is to be Chief of Staff of the Army.

Lt Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong, Commander of the Fourth Army Area is Chief of Staff Officers to the Supreme Commander.

Lt Gen Phisit Hemabut, Commander of the Second Army Area is to be Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief.

Maj Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, Deputy Commander of the Second Army Area is to be Commander of the First Army Area.

Maj Gen Wimon Wongwanit, Commander of the First Division is to be Commander of the Second Army Area.

Maj Gen San Sriphe, Commander of the Third Infantry Division is First Division Commander.

Maj Gen Chaichana Tharichat, Deputy Commander of the Third Army Area is Commander.

Maj Gen Mongkhon Amphonphisit, Aide-de-camp of Gen Prem is Commander of the Ninth Division based in Kanchanaburi.

Chief-of-staff of the Armed Forces is ACM Thuanthong Yotawut, now Air Force Chief-of-Staff.

Chief of Staff of the Air Force will be AVM Kaset Rotchananin, who is now Deputy Chief-of-Staff.

Adm Thada Ditthabanchong, Commander of the Fleet, is to be Commander-in-Chief of the Navy in place of Adm Niphon Sirithon.

ACM Sonsoen Wanit, currently Deputy Permanent Defence Secretary, to be Permanent Secretary.

King Approves List

BK020115 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Sep 86 p 2

[Text] First Army Commander Lt. Gen Phichit Kunlawanit and Special Warfare Commander Lt-Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong have been promoted to assistant army commanders-in-chief in the annual military reshuffle.

The reshuffle of the three armed forces, which was not publicly announced but partially released yesterday, has been approved by His Majesty the King. Promotion orders will be sent, like last year, individually to the 318 officers involved this time.

Significant in this year's reshuffle is the rise to the top of the Army by classmates of Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchayut (Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy Class 1) and officers of Class 5.

Deputy Chief-of-Staff Lt-Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun becomes Army Chief-of-Staff, a position he held as caretaker when Gen Chawalit was promoted this year.

Second Army Commander Lt-Gen Phisit Hemabut is now Deputy Army Chief, taking over from Gen Akkhaphon Somrup, who held the post when Gen Chuthai Saengthawip was promoted to Army Inspector-General after Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon's decision not to extend the term of former army chief and supreme commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek.

The promotion of these four officers fills the Army's five top posts which, including that of Gen Chawalit, are known as the "Five Tigers". Military analysts say the promotion of Lt-Gen Phichit, Lt-Gen Sunthon and Lt-Gen Wanchai makes them most likely successors to Gen Chawalit, who has said he would resign next year when he reaches the age of 55.

Lt-Gen Sunthon and Lt-Gen Wanchai are members of Class 1, classmates of Gen Chawalit, while Gen Phichit is a member of Class 2.

Although Lt-Gen Phisit (Army Pre-Cadet School Class 6) is also eligible to be promoted to the top army post, he too is due to resign next year.

Lt-Gen "Big George" Sunthon is due to retire in 1991 while Lt-Gen "Big Sua" Pichit and Lt-Gen Wanchai are due to retire in 1992.

Another classmate of Gen Chawalit promoted this year is Assistant Chief-of-Staff Lt-Gen Charuai Wongsayan, who is made Deputy Chief-of-Staff, replacing his elder brother Lt-Gen Charat Wongsayan (Army Pre-Cadet School Class 7).

Lt-Gen Charat has been promoted to deputy permanent [under] secretary of the Defence Ministry.

Another Class 1 member promoted is Maj-Gen Panya Singhasakda of the Institute of Army Academies, who is now Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Operations.

Maj-Gen Arun Pariwattham, commander of the Second Infantry Reserves, has been made Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Civilian Affairs.

The new Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Personnel is Maj-Gen Sanan Sawetserani, a classmate of Lt-Gen Phichit, who was formerly the deputy commander of the Special Warfare Command.

Although the most senior of the Chunlachomkao Class 5 officers to be promoted is Lt-Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, who went from Assistant Chief-of-Staff (Operations) to Deputy Chief-of-Staff, the officer who made the biggest leap is Maj-Gen Wimon Wongwanit.

Maj-Gen Wimon who is the First Army's 1st Infantry Division commander, was promoted yesterday to command the Special Warfare Centre without having to hold a deputy commanding post.

Class 5 member and First Army Second Infantry Division Commander Maj-Gen San Siphen becomes the First Army's 1st Division Commander.

Deputy First Army Commander Maj-Gen Watthanachai Wutthisiri (Class 4) is now commander while Deputy Third Army Commander Maj-Gen Chaichana Tharichat, also a classmate of Gen Chawalit, has been promoted to commander.

Deputy Fourth Army Commander Maj-Gen Wisit Atkhumwong, a classmate of Gen Phichit, has been promoted to commander.

Three Class 8 officers were also promoted in the reshuffle to command combat units joining two other classmates, 1st Special Warfare Division Commander Maj-Gen Watthana Sanphanit and the Fourth Army's 5th Infantry Division Commander Maj-Gen Kitti Rattanachai.

The three officers are Col Banthao Yaiket, who has been promoted from deputy commander to commander of the Second Army's 6th Infantry Division, Col Oraphan Watthanawibun, promoted from deputy commander to commander of the 2nd Special Warfare Division, and Col Manat Aramsi, promoted from deputy commander to commander of the Prachin Buri-based 2nd Infantry Division.

Another notable promotion is Gen Prem's aide, Maj-Gen Mongkon Ampholphisit, who was made commander of the First Army's 9th Infantry Division based in Kanchanaburi Province.

Military Appointees Profiled

BK020147 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Sep 86 p 3

[Text] "Better dead than led" has long been the personal motto of newly-appointed Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief Lt Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong.

Widely known as "Big George," Lt Gen Sunthon has held the chieftain of the powerful Lop Buri-based Special Warfare Command until last night when he was promoted to assistant army chief.

Lt Gen Sunthon, 55, is a graduate of the prestigious Chunlachomkla Royal Military Academy's Class One whose members included Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchayut and newly-appointed Third Army Region Commander Maj Gen Chaichana Tharichat.

He began his military career as a sub-lieutenant officer attached to the Infantry Centre between 1954-55 after which he underwent military courses both in Thailand and overseas. The military institutions where he had been trained included the U.S. Army Infantry School and Fort Leavenworth military college.

Upon returning to Thailand, Lt Gen Sunthon served as a lecturer at the Army Chief-of-Staff College and later as personnel chief of the Thai forces in Vietnam during the Vietnam War and was decorated with a Gallantry Cross medal.

Before assuming the post of Special Warfare commander in 1983, he took up various important positions in the army including intelligence chief of the First Army Region, chief-of-staff of the Special Warfare Command and commander of the Army Aviation Centre.

Maj Gen Wimon Wongwanit, named commander of the elite Special Warfare Centre yesterday, was a cadet of the Chunlachomkla Royal Military Academy's Class Five.

His classmates who are key figures in the army include Lt Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, Maj Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi and Maj Gen San Siphen.

A native of the southern province of Surat Thani, the 52-year-old commander of the powerful Special Warfare Command received his primary education in Phunphin district and high-school level at Phuttha Nikhom School in Chaiya District.

Before being admitted as a cadet of the "Class Five", he underwent military courses at the Pre-cadet Army School.

He began his military career as an officer of the First Infantry Regiment. After that, he underwent chief-of-staff courses in the United States and England.

Maj Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi was one of the army officers who enjoyed a meteoric rise following the abortive coup by the Young Turks in 1981. He has always been seen as a staunch supporter of Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

The 53-year-old army man, who was yesterday named new commander of the Second Army Region which covers the northeastern region, belongs to the Class Five and was a classmate of Lt Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, the assistant army chief-of-staff for operations, who is also his brother-in-law.

A graduate of the Fort Leavenworth in the U.S., Maj Gen Itsaraphong was first assigned to the Infantry Centre Headquarters. After a series of promotions, he was named assistant army attache to Britain. After returning to Thailand, he was made a lecturer in the army and later deputy commander of the Ninth Infantry Division and later commander of the 11th Infantry Division and chief-of-staff of the First Army Division. He was subsequently appointed deputy commander of the First Army Division and commander of the Sixth Army Division before he was made commander of the Suranari Force in 1982.

Maj Gen Watthanachai Wutthisiri is the first Chunlachomkao's Class Four member to assume the post of an army regional commander. He was yesterday named commander of the First Army Region.

His classmates in the Chunlachomkao Royal Military Academy included Maj Gen Siri Riuphan, deputy Third Army Region commander, and Maj Gen Chap Iam-siri, deputy commander of the Fourth Army Region.

Upon graduation from the academy in 1955, Maj Gen Watthanachai was appointed a sub-lieutenant officer attached to the Lop Buri-based Artillery Centre until 1961 when he was reshuffled to be an operation officer of the Anti-aircraft Division.

A graduate of the Fort Leavenworth in the United States, Maj Gen Watthanachai was a member of Thai mercenary [as published] forces during the Vietnam War. His colleagues in Vietnam included Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and newly-appointed Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit.

Maj Gen Watthanachai was also a member of Thai mercenary forces in Laos for over 10 years.

Maj Gen San Siphen, the newly-appointed First Army Division commander, is a former cadet of the well-known "Class Five" of the Chunlachomkao Royal Military Academy.

The 53-year-old general's former military classmates include Army Assistant Chief-of-Staff Lt Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, Commander of the Special Warfare Command Maj Gen Wimon Wongwanit and Deputy Second Army Region Commander Maj Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi.

A native of Bangkok, Maj Gen San is an alumnus of Suankulap College and the army Pre-cadet School's Class 12.

He was once an operations officer of Thai forces in Vietnam during the Vietnam War. He has served for several years as an officer in the Second Army Region since Premier Prem Tinsulanon was the regional commander.

With only one year left before retirement, Lt Gen Phisit Hemabut becomes the No. 2 man in the powerful army in his new capacity as deputy army commander-in-chief.

Lt Gen Phisit, 59, had served as commander of the Isan [northeast]-based Second Army Region for two years until yesterday when he was moved up to the deputy army commander.

A native of Bangkok, Lt Gen Phisit completed his secondary education from Amnuaisin School and later enrolled as an infantry cadet of the Army Pre-cadet School's Class Six.

Newly-appointed Third Army Region Commander Maj Gen Chaichana Tharichat is one of the most trusted men of army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchayut.

Prior to his new appointment yesterday, Maj Gen Chaichana was deputy regional commander since 1983.

Born in Bangkok 55 years ago, Maj Gen Chaichana finished secondary education from Yothin Burana School before graduating from the prestigious Chunlachomkla Royal Military Academy. A member of the so-called "Chunlachomkla's Class One," Maj Gen Chaichana's former classmates include Gen Chawalit, newly-appointed Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief Lt Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun.

He began his military career as a sub-lieutenant attached to the Cavalry Regiment then under the command of Deputy Premier Maj Gen Chatchai Chunhanwan.

Newly-appointed Navy Commander-in-Chief Adm Thada Ditbanchong will serve the navy one more year before reaching his retirement age next year.

Am alumnus of the Naval Officers Academy, Adm Thada's prominent classmates include Assistant Navy Commander-in-Chief Adm Yutthayna Choetbunmuang.

Adm Thada was a former commander of the HMS Chumphon and Mae Klong. In addition, he was an ex-naval attache to Washington and director of the Naval Operations Department.

In 1982, Adm Thada was named deputy Navy chief-of-staff and commander of the Royal Fleet in 1984.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Thuanthong Yot-awut is the second Air Force officer after ACM Thawi Chunlasap to take over the post of the Armed Forces chief-of-staff.

ACM Thuangthong, 59, is an alumnus of the Army Pre-cadet School's Class Five whose members included retired supreme commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, Air Force Commander-in-Chief ACM Praphan Thupatemi and former deputy army commander-in-chief Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan.

Vice Adm Komut Kamonnawin, the new navy chief-of-staff, was born to a family of a senior navy officer on October 10, 1928 in Bangkok.

He received primary education at the St Gabriel's College and later moved to Ammuaisin School. He graduated from the Naval Officers Academy in 1951.

He later continued his study at the Navy Staff College and also won scholarship for advanced study in the United States, France, and Denmark.

He was the commander of several battleships [as published] including HMS Surat Thani and HMS Rattanakosin. He was also appointed the navy attache in France, Spain, and West Germany.

PREM ORDERS REINSTATEMENT OF YOUNG TURKS

BK300335 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Aug 86 pp 1,2

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon has issued an order reinstating 28 "Young Turk" officers dismissed from the army following the April Fool's coup in 1981.

The order, signed by Premier Prem in his capacity as defence minister on August 5, appointed the former cashiered Young Turks as officers attached to army headquarters.

The 28 reinstated officers are among 39 alleged conspirators of the 1981 coup fiasco led by former deputy army commander-in-chief Gen San Chitpatima. The other 11 officers, including Bangkok MP Col Prachak Sawangchit, were not included in the list of reinstated officers because they have entered politics.

Upon learning of the order, Lt Col Ronnachai Sisuworanana, a former commander of the 17th Cavalry Battalion, told reporters he and his 27 colleagues will on Monday report themselves to the Defence Ministry.

"We would like to express our whole-hearted gratitude to those who helped push for our reinstatement. We appreciate the kindness of Army Commander-in-chief Gen Chawalit Youngchayut, Assistant Army Chief-of-Staff Lt Gen Suchinda Khraprayun and Gen Prem who signed the order. They have given us a new life," he said.

The 27 other Young Turks reinstated in the order are:

- Col Chuphong Matthawaphan, former commander of the First Cavalry Regiment
- Col Nansak Khomphairi, former commander of the First Artillery Regiment
- Col Sombat Rotphothong, former commander of the Fifth Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment
- Col Phanlop Pinman, former commander of the 18th Infantry Regiment

-- Col Bowon Ngam-kasem, former commander of the First Cavalry Regiment
-- Col Prap Chotikasathian, former officer attached to the Military Police Regiment
-- Col Saengsak Mangkhalasiri, former commander of the 11th Army Engineer Regiment
-- Col Wirayut Inwasa, former officer attached to the Chunlachomkla Royal Military Academy
-- Col Thawiwan Niyomsen, former deputy commander of the Ninth Artillery Regiment
-- Col Phirat Sawamiwat, former officer attached to the army headquarters
-- Col Phicha Khotchasesni, former deputy commander of the Second Infantry Regiment
-- Col Prachiat Panchinda, former deputy chief-of-staff of the Second Cavalry Division
-- Col Prasit Yothiphithak, former officer attached to the army Chief-of-Staff College
-- Col Thanat Phaktiphat, former officer attached to the army headquarters
-- Col M.R. Adundet Chakkrapan, former deputy commander of the First Cavalry Regiment
-- Lt Col Ong-at Champhuntha, former commander of the Second Battalion, First Army Division.
-- Col Sompong Khathanyacharoen, former officer attached to the Military Police Regiment
-- Lt Col Somphong Wisetsang, former officer attached to the First Cavalry Regiment
-- Lt Col Worachet Watcharabunchot, former commander of the First Battalion, Second Infantry Regiment
-- Lt Col Praphat Phunkham, former commander of the Second Battalion, Second Infantry Regiment
-- Lt Col Bunyang Bucha, commander of the Second Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment
-- Lt Col Suraphon Chinachit, commander of the First Artillery Battalion
-- Lt Col Phaithun Nakharat, former commander of the 17th Artillery Regiment
-- Lt Col Suthin Chiangthong, former officer attached to the army headquarters
-- Lt Col Prasoet Kasuwan, former commander of the 11th Artillery Battalion
-- Maj Sanchai Bunthariksawat, former officer attached to the army commander-in-chief.
-- Maj Surarit Chantrathip, former deputy commander of the Second Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment.

Lt Col Ronnachai said the 28 officers will pay respect to the equestrian statue of King Chunlachomkla at the Royal Plaza after reporting to the Defence Ministry on Monday.

DIRECT TALKS ON AMERASIAN CHILDREN ISSUE HELD

OW011748 Hanoi VNA in English 1604 GMT 1 Sep 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA September [dateline as received] -- Representatives of Vietnam and the United States held a meeting here today to discuss the issue of Amerasian children in Vietnam. This is the first bilateral and direct meeting between the two countries on this issue. The Vietnamese representative made it clear that the issue of Amerasian children in Vietnam is an issue concerning the consequences of the U.S. war in Vietnam and a humanitarian issue that must be given priority of settlement. Responsibility first rests with the U.S. Government, and Vietnam is ready to cooperate with the U.S. side to solve this issue.

NGUYEN HUU THO ARRIVES IN HARARE FOR SUMMIT

OW012001 Hanoi VNA in English 1603 GMT 1 Sep 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 1 -- The Vietnamese delegation led by Nguyen Huu Tho, vice president of the Council of State, arrived in Harare, Zimbabwe, on August 31 for the 8th Summit of Non-Aligned Countries. He was greeted at the Harare International Airport by Prime Minister Robert G. Mugabe, president of the Z.A.P.U.-Z.A.N.U. Patriotic Front, and many other senior Zimbabwe officials.

NONALIGNED MINISTERS LEAVE CAMBODIAN SEAT VACANT

BK310426 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 30 Aug 86

[Text] The foreign ministers of the countries of the Nonaligned Movement met at the International Conference Center in Harare on 28 and 29 August to make preparations for a summit conference of heads of states and governments which is to open on the morning of 1 September 1986. Mr Shiv Shanker, minister of external affairs of the Republic of India -- the incumbent chairman country of the Nonaligned Movement -- opened the conference with a speech pointing out the work to be done. He then passed on the authority to direct the conference to Mr Mangwenda, foreign minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe -- the incoming chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

The conference heard a report on the results of a [nonaligned] ambassadorial conference, discussed and passed a motion on the composition of the presidium of the summit conference, on the activities of the political and economic committees, and on the grand celebration of the Nonaligned Movement's 25th anniversary, 1 September 1986, in Harare.

At its 29 August session, the conference approved a general report -- to be presented at the Eighth Nonaligned Summit -- in which there are many important questions for consideration by the summit. Also at this session, the conference chairman brought up for a vote a decision on the rightful Cambodian representation in the Nonaligned Movement.

On this question, chief SRV delegate Minister Vo Dong Giang said:

1. The PRK Government -- the current controller of all Cambodian territory and the sole, genuine, and legal representative of the Cambodian people -- has the right to demand its rightful position in the Nonaligned Movement.

2. However, to prevent the conference from having differences which could create a split within the movement and to let the conference concentrate on those vital and urgent issues which may help to ensure the success of the conference of the Indochinese countries, the 13th Indochinese Foreign Minister's Conference held recently in Hanoi declared total respect for the decisions of the Sixth and Seventh Summit Conferences to leave the Cambodian seat vacant. The SRV advocates maintaining this decision at the coming Eighth Summit Conference.

3. The Vietnamese delegation totally favors the draft decision recently introduced by the conference chairman to resolutely resist any intention of reposing the question of rightful Cambodian representation at the coming summit conference so as to create disputes aimed at reversing those correct decisions of the Sixth and Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conferences and at renewing confrontation between the two groupings in Southeast Asia. This would only result in a split at the Eighth Summit Conference and Undermine the results of the summit conference.

The conference unanimously agreed with the conference chairman's final decision to leave the Cambodian seat vacant until the Ninth Nonaligned Summit Conference and not to bring this question up for consideration at the Eighth Nonaligned Summit Conference.

UNICEF DELEGATION VISITS MEETS PHAM VAN DONG

OW282013 Hanoi VNA in English 1459 GMT 28 Aug 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 28 -- A delegation of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) led by Director General James P. Grant, left here today after a five-day visit. The delegation included Ahmed Mostefaoui, director of the regional Unicef and Paul Audat, Unicef representative in Hanoi.

On August 27, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong cordially received the delegation. Earlier, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach had received the Unicef guests.

While here, the delegation had working sessions with leading officials of several offices including the Ministries of Education and Public Health, and the Mother and Child Care Commission. It attended the inaugural ceremonies of two vaccine workshops in Da Lat and Nha Trang and visited several other projects being built with Unicef assistance.

The delegation valued highly great efforts of the Vietnamese Government and people to enhance their cooperation with Unicef and make good use of the latter's assistance.

NEW ZEALANDLANGE REJECTS MILITARY COOPERATION WITH USSR

HK020255 Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 27 Aug 86 p 3

[Text] Prime Minister David Lange today rejected overtures by the Soviet Union for military cooperation.

"The best cooperation we can have from the Soviet Union is to have their vessels as far away from New Zealand as ours are from Russia," he said.

"There is certainly no proposal for any form of military cooperation with the Soviet Union," said Mr Lange.

On the trade front, Mr Lange said New Zealand had a business like relationship with the Soviet Union, and any further development of this relationship would take place "in the normal way."

KAPITSA DISCUSSES USSR'S PACIFIC POLICY

HK020257 Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 27 Aug 86 p 3

[Text] When it has more information, the Soviet Union will definitely sign the protocols attached to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, says the visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister.

Dr Mikhail Kapitsa gave this assurance at a press conference in Wellington yesterday.

He also said the Soviet Union would be willing to sign a bilateral "confidence building" agreement with New Zealand under which it would be the Soviets' task to inform this country whenever a Soviet warship was visiting the South Pacific.

Dr Kapitsa, in New Zealand from Saturday until yesterday, told reporters the purpose of his visit was to explain Soviet policy in Asia and the Pacific.

While in New Zealand he met Deputy Foreign Minister Frank O'Flynn, Opposition Overseas Trade spokesman Warren Cooper, and the Secretaries of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Industry, Merwyn Norrish and Harry Clark.

On the question of the protocols to the treaty, he had told Mr O'Flynn that he could consider that he had Soviet agreement for those, Dr Kapitsa said.

"Now when we have more information I can say very definitely that the Soviet Union will sign the appropriate protocols attached to the agreement declaring the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone."

Later, Dr Kapitsa said that the Soviet Union would not be prepared to sign the protocols until an "appropriate number" of countries had ratified the document and it was valid.

It needs to be ratified by four more countries to take effect.

The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, the first to visit this country, also issued an assurance that the Soviet Union was not going to interfere in New Zealand's internal affairs or politics and had no ambitions here.

The purpose of a confidence building agreement between New Zealand and the Soviet Union, he said, would be to ensure that neither country "suspects the other in any evil designs" and to create an atmosphere of trust.

On fishing agreements with South Pacific countries, Dr Kapitsa said the agreement with Kiribati was for one year and had now finished.

He did not know if it would be extended.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

VAGI CLARIFIES PNG-USSR FISHING NEGOTIATIONS

BK290913 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Text] The Papua New Guinea foreign minister, Mr Legu Vagi, has made a statement seeking to clarify his country's position on fishing negotiations with the Soviet Union. Mr Vagi said Papua New Guinea was looking at strategies for negotiations with a number of countries on fishing rights to its waters, including the Soviet Union.

He said the chances that a fishing agreement will be made with the Soviet Union were not great and Papua New Guinea considered Japan and South Korea were more likely options.

Earlier, Papua New Guinea was reported to have become the fourth South Pacific nation to begin negotiations with the Soviet Union on fishing rights for Russian trawlers.

A Radio Australia correspondent in Port Moresby, Peter Cotton, said that Fiji as well as Vanuatu have similar negotiations under way with Moscow while Kiribati already has a fishing agreement with the Soviet Union.

AQUINO EXPRESSES 'CONCERN' OVER FIGHTING

OW291338 Tokyo KYODO in English 1155 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Text] Manila, Aug. 29 KYODO -- President Corazon Aquino has expressed "concern" over continued fighting between government troops and the rebel New People's Army (NPA) and wants an end to the killing "as soon as possible," government ceasefire negotiator, Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra said Friday. "She (Aquino) has given instructions to us to bring a message to the negotiators of the rebels when we meet again, and we are seeking an early meeting with them to transmit the wishes of the President," Mitra said.

The government peace negotiator said that what concerned the president "very much" was last Wednesday's ambush by the NPA in which 15 soldiers and five rebels were killed in Davao del Norte province in southern Philippines where a local ceasefire agreement between the insurgents and civilian officials was signed two weeks ago. Mitra spoke with reporters after an hour-long meeting at the presidential palace with Aquino, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Armed Forces Chief Gen. Fidel Ramos and Commission on Audit Chairman Teofisto Guingona, another member of the government negotiating panel. He said that the government negotiating position was discussed at the palace meeting, but declined to disclose what it is.

Preliminary talks on a possible end to the 17 year communist-led insurgency began last August 5 when Mitra met for the first time with former journalists Satur Ocampo and Antonio Zumel, who represent the leftwing coalition National Democratic Front (NDF) at the talks. Guingona, who will meet with the NDF Friday night, said that Aquino "feels that there should be some meeting ground for these peace talks." He did not elaborate.

Mitra said the NDF has asked for safe conduct passes for two lawyers, Arno Sanidad and Romeo Capulong, who will assist the NDF during the talks. Sanidad and Capulong are known human rights lawyers. Mitra said he did not know why the NDF has appointed lawyers. "We feel that the question of peace or war is not necessarily a lawyer's business, although both he (Guingona) and I are lawyers," he said.

In an interview with KYODO news service Thursday, Ocampo explained that lawyers are needed on both sides to arrive at a common interpretation of whatever agreement is arrived at by the two parties. He said that a temporary ceasefire may be agreed upon even while the formal peace talks are going on. He said that the NDF panels wants to approach the talks in a comprehensive manner in order to achieve a "durable peace" and reach a "political settlement" with the Aquino government covering solutions to "fundamental questions and the causes of the armed conflict." Mitra said that the proposal that a ceasefire should be part of a consideration of broader issues will be discussed when the government and the NDF panel meet again.

The NDF groups the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the NPA, with other outlawed leftist peasant, worker, youth, religious and professional organizations. The military last Wednesday suffered one of its biggest setbacks in a single gunbattle with NPA guerrillas since Aquino took power last February.

Ocampo said the NPA operated on 59 guerrilla fronts in 62 out of the country's 73 provinces as of the end of last year, but declined to say the exact number of NPA guerrillas. Recent military estimates put the figure at 16,500, while U.S. defense officials say there are 22,500.

Urges Immediate Cease-Fire

HK300150 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Text] President Aquino yesterday [29 August] urged government and rebel emissaries to initiate a nationwide cease-fire immediately. The president expressed concern over the increasing number of victims of hostility between the military and the dissidents. She urged peace negotiators to begin talks immediately to prevent further loss of life. In a directive to Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra and Audit Commission Chairman Teofisto Guingona, the president said the loss of life and the continued fighting is a national concern, not only of the government but also of the rebels.

AQUINO PRAISES HEROISM OF SOLDIERS AT CEREMONY

HK010119 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 31 Aug 86

[Text] President Aquino yesterday 31 August cited the contribution of Filipino soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the nation's quest for freedom and democracy. In her brief remarks during the wreath-laying ceremony at the observance of National Heroes Day at Fort Bonifacio, the president said that she put these unknown soldiers on a level equal to her husband. The president said that it was only fitting for the nation to honor the unknown soldiers who died for the country. She also cited the efforts of the millions of heroes of the February Revolution that led to the restoration of democracy in the country.

ENRILE ON CPP, NPA DISUNITY; VER SEEN IN SABAH

HK291113 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Text] Misunderstanding and disunity have emerged within the Communist Party of the Philippines and its armed forces, the NPA. This was declared by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile at a press conference following his speech in [words indistinct]. He also said that the government should be cautious and keep an eye on the dissident movement at the current peace negotiations. [Enrile recording indistinct]

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile reported that former Armed Forces Chief of Staff Fabian Ver was seen in Sabah last 16 August. Enrile made the revelation during an open forum following his speech before the Federation of [words indistinct]. The military believed that Ver's visit to Sabah was part of an attempt to return to the Philippines. This is the second time the former Armed Forces of the Philippines chief was spotted in a neighboring country. It will be recalled that Ver was also seen in Brunei last June.

ENRILE CALLS FOR CAUTION IN DEALING WITH REBELS

HK300153 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile calls for caution in dealing with the communist rebels.

He told newsmen yesterday that the spate of bloody ambushes by rebels in various parts of the country showed that the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] has lost control over its five territorial commissions nationwide. Speaking before Bicol forum in Makati, Enrile said the CPP Central Committee was supposed to call the shots in party decisions in light of current efforts to forge a cease-fire agreement with the government.

[Begin Enrile recording in progress] ..that they are interested in peace, and yet they are using violence and taking the opportunity to strengthen themselves. And this appears to me that we should be very careful and cautious in approaching our dealings with them because we have not yet really assessed the true intentions of these people and it is better to exercise prudence in things like these than a certain amount of recklessness. [end recording]

Meanwhile government peace negotiator Ramon Mitra said yesterday he would meet with the National Democratic Front [NDF] leader for the third time this weekend after consulting President Aquino on the cease-fire talks. Mitra said he would meet with Defense Minister Enrile and Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos to have an overall review of the progress of the negotiations with the NDF leaders. Mitra said he had requested General Ramos to issue a safe conduct pass to two lawyers of the NDF upon request of their leaders, Satur Ocampo and Antonio Lumel. Mitra said he expected General Ramos to issue the safe conduct pass during their meeting. The agriculture minister did not identify the two lawyers.

On the communist side, negotiator Satur Ocampo said a temporary cease-fire can be declared while peace talks ending the 17-year-old communist-led insurgency are going on. Ocampo said the rebels want to achieve a durable peace through a comprehensive political settlement with the government of President Aquino covering solutions to fundamental political questions which are the causes of the armed conflict. He said that a temporary settlement is a means of seeking a way out of the present level of military conflict and laying the ground for a possible end to the fighting.

Says AFP Can 'Finish' Insurgency

OW291814 Tokyo KYODO in English 1236 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Text] Manila, Aug 29 KYODO -- Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile said Friday that the armed forces can "finish" the communist-led insurgency in the Philippines in "two or three years time" if given a "free hand" by President Corazon Aquino. "I can assure you that with their present capability, the military organization is in a position to contain the problem to a level that would be acceptable to us...," Enrile said when asked during a forum in Manila's financial district of Makati.

A member of the rebel panel representing the leftist National Democratic Front (NDF) had earlier told KYODO news service that the New People's Army (NPA) can "withstand an all-out attack" should Aquino decide to order an offensive against the guerrillas. Established in March 1969, the NPA claims to have 30,000 armed fighters deployed as 58 guerrilla fronts distributed through most of the country's provinces. The NDF alliance, which includes the Communist Party and the NPA, says it has the support of 6 million Filipinos.

Rebel leader Satur Ocampo said "it would be ruinous for the aquino government to undertake an all-out military operation because (it) would entail a lot of expenditures, particularly now that they are introducing more expensive armaments...."

"Unless the Aquino government is willing to pour tremendous economic resources into the military campaign and to the prejudice of its economic recovery program, then I think the ultimate loser will be the government and not the NPA."

Enrile explained that a "free hand" meant getting orders from the "commander-in-chief" telling the 250,000-strong armed forces to "keep the pressure on the military elements of the movement in order to ... disrupt their buildup, scatter them and take them all." The military has said that it has adopted an "active defense posture" because of ongoing "peace talks" between representatives of the government and the leftist National Democratic Front (NDF) aimed at ending the 17-year conflict.

Ocampo said that the NPA had adopted the same posture claimed by the military but pointed out that "in reality they (the AFP) are in an offensive position." "They have not reduced their operations.... in fact, the AFP has increased the number of combat battalions deployed against the NPA. As of July, our figures show that of the 81 combat battalions of the AFP, 67 were deployed in counter-insurgency operations."

Ocampo also criticized what he said was the Aquino policy to leave the determination of military policy in the hands of the military leadership. "We are pointing out that it's wrong. Military policy must be enunciated by the political leadership, by the chief executive as commander in chief of the armed forces," he stressed. "Many people say that Mrs. Aquino is not knowledgeable on military matters, so she leaves it to Enrile and Ramos. The danger is that if she allows it that way and with the very distinct, diverse views being expressed by Enrile, we have a divided position in the government."

Criticizes NDF Demands

HK020213 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 1 Sep 86

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile yesterday [1 September] accused the National Democratic Front [NDF] of baiting the Aquino government into an agreement tantamount to giving itself international recognition [as heard]. The communists want to attain a belligerent status similar to that of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Enrile said this during a dialogue with officers and men of the Philippine Air Force at Villamor Airbase in Pasay City. He added that aside from the demand, the NDF, the political arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP], is also insistent that the communist flag fly side by side with the Philippine flag during the dialogue between the government and the CPP. He added that these demands were submitted by the NDF to Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra, a member of the government peace panel negotiating with the rebels.

Warns Against Repeating Mistakes

HK260817 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 24 Aug 86 p 6

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile cautioned President Aquino Friday against committing the same errors made by deposed President Ferdinand Marcos that led to his downfall.

"I'm not saying that we are always correct in our assessments but I can tell with all candor that over my time as Minister of Defense, even during the time of the former regime, we have given them assessments that turned out to be correct but they ignored it," Enrile said. In an interview, Enrile also denied published reports (not in, The INQUIRER) quoting him as predicting the downfall of the Aquino government.

"What I said was merely an advice that this government might experience the same predicament if they do not follow our advice on the insurgency," Enrile said.

Enrile also said the government must always be vigilant and cautious in dealing with the rebels for a probable ceasefire.

The New People's Army "is not a private army, it is a full-grown military force," he said, adding that the NPA is now competing with the Aquino government.

"We can no longer ignore the insurgency problem. But we are ready and prepared to give this dialogue (the peace talks) a chance, but with caution," he said.

Reiterating his reservations on the ongoing peace talks, Enrile said:

"Whether the policy adopted by the government will bring the desired result or not will have to be answered in time."

ENRILE ON DANGER FROM 'LEFTIST LABOR FRONTS'

BK270517 Manial PNA in English 0541 GMT 27 Aug 86

[Text] Manila, Aug 27 (OANA/PNA) -- Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile Tuesday assured the country's labor force of the government's vigilance against leftist labor fronts attempting to destabilize the country. We are responsible for preserving the entire society for disorder, lawlessness and anarchy, Enrile said, adding that the government will not allow leftist labor fronts to undermine economic stability and national security. Enrile aired this assurance in a speech before the Pambansang Diwa Ng Manggagawang Pilipino, (association of 21 labor organizations nationwide).

For its part, the PDMP, through spokesman Roberto Oca Jr., vowed to help the government fight communism and assured Enrile that the 21 labor groups under the PDMP are prepared to defend freedom and democracy in the land. Minister Enrile expressed concern over the growing number of workingmen who are drifting towards the extreme left but revealed that majority of them are merely being misled by hard-core Communists. Many workers, he said, have unwittingly joined the leftist labor fronts of the underground movement simply because they were led to believe that they would be better off under a political system being foisted upon them. It is high time therefore that education and enlightenment about the real goals of Communism are needed.

However, he said, meaningful socio-economic amelioration programs are still the most reliable instrument at the disposal of the government. Spearheading the enlightenment campaign himself, Enrile bared a communist strategy of propaganda and agitation especially within the labor sector by promising potential recruits of better living conditions under communist rule.

They will promise better wages, and even outright ownership of the business companies, Enrile said of one strategy to lure laborers into joining front organizations. But looking at the conditions in other countries which have succumbed to the communist rule would show a great difference between what is promised and what has actually happened. Under a communist state, all enterprise is controlled by the government and that workers are used merely as tools and production similar to machines. There are no labor unions to speak of. You cannot strike nor elevate your grievances for official arbitration. If you attempt to exercise your rights, you are considered an outcast in the society, Enrile said.

LABOR GROUP SUPPORTS ENRILE'S PRESIDENTIAL BID

HK271539 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 27 Aug 86 pp 1, 7

[Text] A newly-surfaced labor group which claims 600,000 members nationwide yesterday rallied behind Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, hailing him as a "true friend of laborers" and the next president of the Philippines.

The Pambansang Diwa ng Managgagawang Pilipino [National Spirit of Pilipino Workers] (PDMP), said to be a break-away group from the Trade Union's Congress of the Philippines, expressed support to Enrile's presidential plans during its convention held at the Sulo Hotel.

PDMP president Tony Diaz, who repeatedly addressed Enrile as "president," said the defense minister is the only remaining Cabinet member who can prevent communists taking over the country.

The national convention of the PDMP, which claims 21 labor federations under its wings, was attended by some 120 delegates.

During a forum following his speech, Enrile, who earlier admitted he will run in the 1992 elections "if it is the will of the people," said he will resign from the Cabinet if President Aquino would take him away from the defense post.

"Kung ako'y ililipat nila, aalis na lang ako sa gobyerno sapagkat ayaw ko nang lumipat sa ibang pusingon,... kabisado ko na ang pasikot-sikot dito (defense ministry)" [If they move me, then I will leave the government because I do not want to move to other positions. I know the ins and outs of the ministry too well now] Enrile said.

In his speech before the PDMP, Enrile said the defense and military establishments will not allow communistic dissidents who have infiltrated the labor sector to "foment hatred and violence against duly constituted authority without using our workingmen as levers in the process."

"We in the defense ministry are highly indignant over the manner by which our detractors (the communists) have systematically fooled and terrorized our workers, whom they proclaim as vanguards of their so-called revolution when in truth, they use workers as cannon fodder for their so-called revolution," Enrile said.

Meanwhile, the Reform the AFP Movement [RAM], an organization of Philippine Military Academy graduates in the military which played a crucial role in protecting Enrile during the February revolt, will meet at Camp Aguinaldo today to decide whether the organization will be disbanded.

Camp Aguinaldo sources said the group wants to resolve internal problems which have plagued the organization following the success of the revolt which toppled the Marcos regime and swept Mrs Aquino into power.

The possible disbandment of RAM sources said, could have been triggered by the mushrooming of other organizations patterned after it. This threatens the integrity of the military chain of command, sources said.

"If Armed Forces Chief Gen. Fidel Ramos does not watch out, he will soon become a mere coordinator of the various groups in the military instead of a chief of staff," a military analyst said.

REBELLION CHARGES AGAINST TOLENTINO DROPPED

HK011136 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 1 Sept 86

[Text] The government today dropped rebellion charges against former Senator Arturo Tolentino and 40 others who joined him in staging an aborted coup d'etat at the Manila Hotel on 6 July. Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales announced that Tolentino and his followers have sent affidavits pronouncing their adherence to the Freedom Constitution of the Aquino government. Gonzales said the other Marcos loyalists who signed the affidavits are former Batasan speaker Nicanor Yniguez, former MP Rafael Recto, former minister Manuel Alba, former immigration official Edmundo Reyes, and lawyer Oliver Lozano.

RALLY HELD IN PAMPANGA TO SUPPORT U.S. BASES

HK300855 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0800 GMT 30 Aug 86

[Text] Some 300 teachers, students, and political activists staged a demonstration at the town plaza in San Fernando, Pampanga the other day to support the maintenance of U.S. military bases in the Philippines. This was the first such rally held in northern Luzon. Among the speakers at the rally were former congressman Manuel Sanchez Jr and mayor designate Ed Bacungan. Sanchez explained that once the American military bases are removed, the Russians will come into the country and install leaders such as Jose Maria Sison and Bernabe Buscayno to head the government.

OFFICIALS TERM AQUINO'S TRIP 'COMPLETE SUCCESS'

HK291123 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Text] Natural Resources Minister Ernesto Macea, Jr and Trade Minister Jose Concepcion described Corazon Aquino's visit to Indonesia and Singapore as a complete success. Concepcion, who headed the economic panel, said that the overwhelming welcome received from the two foreign governments was unexpected. Both Macea and Concepcion said that at first, the visit was not expected to score a success because the Philippine president is a female and is still relatively inexperienced. However, the president was warmly received by Indonesia and Singapore, and she also concluded agreements with her counterparts. President Aquino is slated to visit the United States in September.

**END OF
FICHE**

DATE FILMED

3 September 1986

